

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 Newsletter

Tucson First

February 1, 2016

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Last Wednesday, January 27th was the 71st anniversary of the Soviet army's liberation of Auschwitz, the Nazi concentration camp that was located in southern Poland. That evening, I saw pretty much wall-to-wall coverage of a candidate boycotting a debate – but not a word about this. I thought I'd share this quick mention so we can all keep a perspective on our "issues of the day" – both locally, and beyond.

Tucson Greyhound Park

These are the results from the fourth race at Tucson Greyhound Park (TGP) last Saturday night. The first column is the dog's name. The second column is the chute the dog came out of when the race began. Skip over to the fifth numbered column where it says "1-4" for Fly Robin Thicke. That's saying the dog came in first place, and was four lengths behind the lure that leads the dogs when she crosses the finish line. You'll see, for example, that Killer Rainer was fifth place and 12 lengths be-



Important Phone Numbers

**Tucson Police
Department**
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues
791-3242/800-598-9449
Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

**Abandoned
Shopping Carts**
791-3171

**Neighborhood
Resources**
837-5013

SunTran/SunLink
792-9222
TDD: 628-1565

**Environmental
Services**
791-3171

Park Wise
791-5071

**Planning and
Development
Services** 791-5550

**Pima Animal Care
Center**
724-5900

**Pima County Vector
Control**
Cockroach: 443-6501
Mosquito: 243-7999

Continued: A Message From Steve

hind the lure. You'll also see Canaan Dollar has an "X." She fell, broke a leg, hit the guard rail on the first turn, and suffered an electric shock as well as deep gashes. The final column "Fell 1st Turn" hardly tells the story. The dog hit the rail so hard the support columns were damaged and the rail that supplies power to the lure was also broken. They had to cancel all of the remaining races following this injury that night.

CHART:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|-----|-----|--------|-------|-------|---|----------------------|
| Fly Robin Thicke | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1-5 | 1-4 | 32.16 | 3.40 | C | Drew Out, Inside |
| Track Tapper | 5 | 1 | 1-5 | 2 | 2-4 | 32.45 | 3.20 | C | Settled For Place Md |
| Last Two Friends | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3-7.5 | 32.70 | 3.90 | C | Early Gain, Inside |
| Dutch Diedra | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4-8 | 32.71 | 6.00 | C | Some Effort |
| Killer Rainer | 4 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5-12 | 33.01 | 13.00 | C | Early Contender |
| Xtrem Patriot | 1 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 6-12.5 | 33.05 | 8.80 | C | No Threat |
| Tb's Paintedlady | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7-17.5 | 33.38 | 2.90 | C | Not A Factor |
| Canaan Dollar | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | X | | 23.50 | C | Fell 1st Turn |

KOLD was all over the story when I called them about it on Sunday morning. The track made its usual best effort to downplay the injuries and suffering the dogs go through out at the track.

Back in December I reached out to the track manager, Dale Popp, and suggested they place a surcharge on each dog in each race, earmarked for paying the rescue groups who take these injured dogs once the track and kennels have used them up. He wouldn't do it then, pleading poverty on the part of both the track and the kennels. Maybe now he'll reconsider.

If they don't have the money to help pay for injured animals, they shouldn't be in the business of racing them. I'll keep these items in front of you and the media with the hope that at some point our State Legislature will get the clue that we need to stop the hardship tax credit that keeps the track running and force the uber-rich owners in Florida to shut it down. The state could also help by simply outlawing live greyhound racing in Arizona. We're the only live track still operating west of the Mississippi.

Budget

Last week, my staff and I hosted our Board, Commission, and Committee (BCC) appointees for a discussion of their perspectives on the BCC program and a budget primer. City Manager Ortega gave the budget talk. I appreciate him carving out the time – and I appreciate the thoughtful input offered by the BCC group on both the budget and BCCs in general. More on the BCC portion, below.

Each week, I'm going to offer some new information on the budget. As I've noted previously, this is going to be a complex item with lots of moving parts. In past weeks, I've shared about how we're approaching this year's remaining deficit through attrition and a hiring freeze. I've also shared what we're considering with respect to retirement options,

work we've done in the past to address our budget holes, and have given some detail on options we have available legislatively (zoo fees and moving code enforcement and graffiti over to Environmental Services.) This week, I want to share some comparative data from other jurisdictions that may be important for you to have when you go to vote on City Charter changes this fall.

We have a 2% cap on our sales taxes. We're at that cap. What you might be asked to consider at the ballot is giving us the option of increasing the sales tax above that 2% cap. We'd still have to go to the voters to do that. So, that makes for two separate ballot questions: can we exceed the cap, and if so, each time we want to, how do you feel about the specific increase request?

We also have a cap on how high our property taxes can go. Right now, it's a total of \$1.75 per \$100 assessed valuation for your primary and secondary property taxes combined. Primary taxes are used for our operations. Secondary taxes go to paying debt service. In November, we may be asking you to shift that \$1.75 limit over to operations only and remove it from the secondary taxes. That would increase our borrowing limits – and if we chose to borrow, the bonds would have to go to the voters for approval each time we wanted to do it. Not all jurisdictions have both primary and secondary property taxes.

I'm going to share what other jurisdictions have in place for both their sales tax levels and property taxes. If we're going to ask you to change our charter, you should know how our request compares to what taxpayers in other cities and towns are asked to do. You should be an informed voter. I'm selecting 20 cities and towns based somewhat on size, and also on how close they are to Tucson and to Phoenix. It's not a scientific sample. If you'd like to see all Arizona cities and towns, you can find comparisons on the Arizona League of Cities and Towns website.

| City | Sales Tax | Primary Property | Secondary Property |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Tucson | 2% | Yes | Yes |
| Casa Grande | 2% | Yes | Yes |
| Chandler | 1.5% | Yes | Yes |
| Coolidge | 3% | Yes | No |
| Douglas | 2.8% | Yes | No |
| Flagstaff | 2.05% | Yes | Yes |
| Gilbert | 1.5% | No | Yes |
| Glendale | 2.9% | Yes | Yes |
| Guadalupe | 4% | No | No |
| Marana | 2.5% | No | No |
| Mesa | 1.75% | No | Yes |
| Oro Valley | 2.5% | No | No |
| Phoenix | 2% | Yes | Yes |
| Prescott | 2% | Yes | Yes |
| Scottsdale | 1.65% | Yes | Yes |
| Sierra Vista | 1.95% | Yes | No |
| South Tucson | 2.5% | Yes | Yes |
| Tempe | 1.8% | Yes | Yes |
| Yuma | 1.7% | Yes | No |



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congresswoman
Martha McSally (R)
(2nd District)
(202) 225-2542
Tucson Office: 520-
881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Doug
Ducey (R)
602-542-4331
Tucson office:
520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
520-791-4201

ZoomTucson Map
[http://
maps.tucsonaz.gov/
/zoomTucson/](http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/)

There's a lot of similarity among the cities and towns. I could add in columns on bed taxes, use taxes, and drill down into other fees, but to give the direct comparison between what you'll most likely be seeing on your ballot later this year, sales and property taxes are most easily digested.

As a refresher, here's the table showing what changes would yield in terms of new dollars for the City coffers:

| Revenue Option | Potential Action | Potential Financial Impact |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Food Tax | Set at 0.5% | \$10 M |
| Construction Tax | Set at 4% | TBD |
| Restaurant | Increase by 0.5% | \$1.4 M |
| Sales Tax | 2% to 2.5% | \$48-50 M |
| Rental Tax | Increase 0.5% | \$3 M |

With respect to property taxes, the State limits us to no more than a 2% increase over the maximum allowable limit from the previous year. So moving the \$1.75 over to primary only doesn't open the floodgates on our ability to increase your primary property taxes. Secondary is only for bond debt, so we'd have to ask you before increasing them – as we did with the Prop 409 road bonds.

None of this is going to be easy. We need revenues and we need to cut expenses. We need to grow our economic base – Sonoran Corridor and smart annexation. Those are long-term, though. Our problem is immediate.

Partnerships

In all of our budget updates with the City Manager, he presents partnerships as a key part of digging out of our budget hole.

I agree that we have to look to regional partners and find efficiencies if we're going to truly do a structural reconstruction of our budget. Last week, I proposed looking at a partnership with utilities and adopting some joint meter-reading processes. TEP can already read our meters. We'd need some I.T. upgrades, but within the context of a larger contract with them for the service, that's easily doable. I've asked staff for an update on that. At the very least, we must sit down with TEP and other utility providers in the community to talk about this before anybody issues a Request for Proposals, the scope of which will have been created without the benefit of having heard from those who are out ahead of us on implementation of

• Partnerships

- TPD/SO
 - Air Support
 - SWAT
 - Bomb Squad
- TFD/Districts
 - Ambulance Service
 - EOC
- County
 - IT
 - Parks
 - PDS
 - Facility Maintenance
 - Vehicle Maintenance

this process. In March, 2015 TEP completed a pilot program studying the concept of shared remote meter reading. In that report, they had this to say: “Leveraging the existing TEP operated Itron Fixed Network to read both electric and water meters creates an opportunity to create shared benefits that increase with the level of collaboration among the parties.” I agree – and we should be exploring this issue with TEP and others.

I also wrote last week about the proposal to increase zoo entry fees. The data suggest that when we’ve done that, attendance has dropped and our General Fund subsidy has increased until a new exhibit caused people to regain interest. Since that time, another one of our partners has weighed in on the fee increase proposal. The Zoological Society is a key player in our ability to fund zoo capital projects. It needs to be a partner in what we decide with respect to zoo fees. Here’s the text of a letter the group has sent out to the M&C on this issue:



**Resolution by the Board of Directors
January 23, 2016**

In February of 2015, the Board of Directors for Reid Park Zoological Society issued a letter of support for a \$3 fee increase for admission to Reid Park Zoo with \$2.50 to be dedicated to support deferred maintenance of the Zoo and \$0.50 to support field conservation projects, aligned with a proposal issued by Zoo Administrator Jason Jacobs.

Mayor and Council received communication from the City Manager’s office on January 5th indicating a fee increase of \$3 per person for Reid Park Zoo visitors is being considered as a funding option by the City of Tucson to offset an anticipated budget deficit. The implication is that this increase would go to the general fund rather than deferred maintenance of the Zoo and field conservation projects.

On behalf of the members and donors who support Reid Park Zoological Society, the Board of Directors has a clear fiduciary duty to work for the Zoo’s best interests; this includes the best interests of the Zoo’s mission, financial sustainability and wellbeing. Not only are we not able to support a fee increase unless 100% of the increase is used for Zoo operations and accreditation, but we have no choice but to actively and publicly oppose any proposal that takes an entry fee increase and moves any of the money into the city’s general fund.

Any questions regarding this resolution may be directed to Nancy Schlegel, President, at nancy@reidparkzoo.org or by calling the office at (520)881-4753.

I’ve met and discussed this with Nancy and her colleagues. They recognize the need to do a larger survey that will include some funding models used in other jurisdictions, but also something to gauge our own local demographics and how they may respond to fee increases. That’ll take time – and that survey will also have to acknowledge the other fees we’re talking about raising (Environmental Services, Water, sales tax, property tax...). None of it happens in a vacuum.

The zoo absolutely needs a funding source for deferred maintenance. So do all of the City operating units. If, after the Zoological Society survey, it’s determined visitors would sup-

port a fee increase as long as it was earmarked to upgrading the facilities and supporting the zoo's strong conservation effort, then we have that discussion. If it's simply shifting new entry fee revenues over to the General Fund, history shows that's a self-defeating approach.

I agree with staff that we need to build on existing partnerships and establish new ones. Given the importance of the Zoological Society to our ability to fund Reid Park Zoo, they have a say in this discussion. We need to take the message contained in their letter to heart.

Our Local Film Office/Industry

Another partner in regional economic development is Visit Tucson's Film Office. I wanted to get a sense of the importance its work plays in terms of bringing new dollars into the community. The numbers make the importance of our support to Visit Tucson and the Film Office clear.

We pay Visit Tucson a bit over \$3M annually through our bed taxes. The return on investment is significant. From 2013 to present, the Film Office at Visit Tucson handled over 400 leads for filming or other production work in and around Tucson. Those included 83 feature film inquiries, 106 episodics, 48 commercials, and other categories such as music videos, TV series, and documentaries.



Right before that time frame began, the State dumped our tax incentive for luring in films. A couple of years ago the City, County, and Visit Tucson partnered in putting together our own local incentive package. With that, we actually landed 16 feature films, 22 commercials, 67 episodics, 7 music videos, and several filmings in different categories from the 400 plus leads for a total of 186 of what the Visit Tucson Film Office calls "definites." So how does that translate into dollars for the local economy? I asked Shelli Hall and Peter Catalanotte from the Film Office to share the direct spending these shows brought here. The data shows \$9.5M from the feature films, \$8.1M from the episodics, \$4.4M from the commercials, and another million dollars spent through the music videos. All totaled, the 186 definites dropped over \$25M into our local economy.

I get people coming in from time to time to talk about investing in things like sound stages and building up our local crews. I'm supportive – and suggest to all of them that the results we see from our regional efforts would accelerate significantly if the state would get on board with a competitive incentive package. For our part, these numbers show that our investment into Visit Tucson, and specifically the small portion that ends up with the Film folks, is generating a great bang for the buck.

Gem Show Partners

Visit Tucson is also a significant partner when it comes to staging the multiple Gem Shows that'll be scattered around town this month. We've assigned specific staff (thank you Andy and Jane!) to also work to coordinate the details of the events. That wasn't always the case. When I started six years ago, the gem show operators made it pretty clear that they felt they came to Tucson and were on auto-pilot. That's no longer true.

We'll be offering free gem show shuttles again this year. It's our fifth straight year of do-

ing so. The GemRide shuttle will include 33 different stops and connect 41 of the shows. There'll be four different routes, but they overlap.

The shuttles began running last Saturday and will continue through the end of the shows on February 14th. They'll run from 8am until 7pm. Here's a link that will give you information on the shuttles, and other attractions you can take advantage of while making your way from show to show: <http://1.usa.gov/18CoDvm>

We're fortunate to have a committed groups, both in-house and at Visit Tucson, pulling this off again this year. The notion of partnerships that is a part of our budget material is important. It's also important to nurture the ones that are already in place, like those I've mentioned above.

Tucson Trap and Skeet Spring Grand Tournament

Because of the near date overlap, this event might be caught up in the Gem Show numbers – but it's a unique event that partners with multiple local hotels and will bring in hundreds of visitors. Many of the hotels are also servicing the Gem Show visitors (Casino del Sol, Marriott Starr Pass, Doubletree at Reid Park, Hampton Inn out on Grant Road and I-10, and Country Inn & Suites downtown).

The event, of course, is held out at the skeet grounds at 7800 W. Old Ajo Highway. It has to be since they're shooting clay targets with shotguns – not something we'll likely be hosting in Reid Park any time soon. This group goes under the radar screen from an economic impact standpoint every year, but they're players.

My granddad used to skeet shoot back in Michigan. It's a much more popular sport back there. The Tucson facility has room for over 250 competitors. Out here I know some people whose names you'll recognize who are quite good at the sport (former Mayor Bob Walkup and Lisa Lovallo from Cox Communications, for example). The competitions are for men and women, singles or doubles. If you'd like to check them out, go to

www.tucsontrapandskeet.com. They've been around forever and deserve a mention under the umbrella of regional partners who help our local economy.



The exciting new game of skeet golf.

International Festival & Events Association

Steven Schmader is the President and CEO of the International Festivals & Events Association. When asked about the likelihood of Tucson hosting their annual conference again, he said, "We've never gone back anywhere two years in a row. I told the local folks it was the same odds as the Powerball lottery."



We win!

On the topic of partners are the many, many civic event pro-

motors who work throughout the year to bring a variety of events to Tucson. Above, I mentioned the granddaddy of them all: the Gem and Mineral Show. Mr. Schmader and his group recognize that we have plenty more where that one comes from (Dillinger Days, 2nd Saturdays, the All Souls Procession, Fords of Fourth, and on and on). Our vast set of established events and partnerships and IFEA's need to continue to develop relationships with its organizers have drawn the group to choose Tucson again.

The convention will be hosted out at Starr Pass. The organization will bring in over 500 members. They'll represent people who are involved with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses, the Kentucky Derby Festival, and more. They will not only book 1,000 room nights in our hotels and spend dollars out in our community; this convention will also provide great publicity for us as a host city. Civic event operators are crucial to our local economy with tourism dollars, Visit Tucson, and the hospitality industry; it's all a part of how we're going to continue recovering from the economic downturn.

I'll be sharing more about this conference as it gets closer, but in the context of our budget and in the context of affirming the importance of partnerships in our solving our budget issues, the civic event piece has to be a part of the conversation.

Business Partners

Last month, we gave direction to the City Manager's office to begin some public meetings focused on the idea of a City ordinance mandating all businesses to provide paid sick leave. All of us support the spirit behind the proposal. However, I didn't support sending staff off to do the leg work on this for several reasons. They all circle back to our budget.

If we're going to pull our way out from the current budget problem, we will have to have a strong local private sector. I don't believe mandating paid time off is the way to strengthen it. Others will differ – that's what the public meetings are demonstrating.

On the heels of the final public meeting, one of our significant Chambers of Commerce shared a letter with M&C expressing pretty clear support of my position. Here's the text:

January 27, 2016

Dear Mayor Rothschild and Councilmembers –

I am writing to express our opposition to mandating paid sick leave in the City of Tucson. Our chamber has attended each of the public forums you have scheduled and plan to express our opposition tomorrow as you continue to gather feedback for the City Manager.

As mentioned in a previous letter, our chamber represents over 1800 businesses with a majority of them small businesses with fewer than 20 employees. Upon learning of this mandate, we surveyed our business membership and sent you the results. **Overwhelmingly, businesses in the City of Tucson oppose increasing mandates** – especially while they are slowly recovering from the recent recession. Many responded that such a mandate would force them to relocate outside the City limits and that this furthers their opinion that the City Council is not “business-

friendly”.

Specifically, we oppose mandating paid sick leave because:

- Our City’s small business’ opinion was not considered and we were not invited to participate in the discussion prior to the Study Session where Councilwoman Romero presented the concept.
- This discussion on mandating paid sick leave has created discord in the community.
- We support the Governor’s concern that cities that take individual action create a “patchwork” of different employer mandates across the state

It is our opinion that the City Council should focus on the most pressing issue at hand – their looming financial deficit.

Sincerely,

Lea Márquez-Peterson

Lea Márquez Peterson, MBA, IOM
President/CEO
Tucson Hispanic Chamber

While I’m not in full agreement with all of those bullet points (particularly #3), I am concerned that even having brought this to a public debate right now wasn’t helpful to the growth of our private sector base. We’ll need a broad base of support if we’re going to sell financial charter-related ideas to you later in the year. I’m hopeful that we affirm our support for encouraging employers to give their workers the time off when needing to take care of personal, family, and health related items. I want to avoid making it mandatory and hope that this episode hasn’t damaged our relations with the business community, a key partner in working to pull ourselves to fiscal health.

Tucson isn’t the government. It’s the combined set of partnerships we’ve got in place that are necessary for keeping us prosperous. As we work towards balancing our budget, we have to keep that fact in mind.

Islamic Center of Tucson



Last week, I gave a pretty lengthy summary of the incidents that were taking place around the Islamic Center of Tucson (ICT). The success we’ll have in addressing them is yet another example of partnerships built up around an important topic.

Last week, I met with leadership from the mosque to talk through solutions. Also in attendance were representatives from the UA, TPD, the City Attorney, ownership of the housing (who flew out from Pennsylvania to take part), the on-site manager, and members of the West University Neighborhood. It’s sad that we have to pull all of those resources together to address the infantile behavior of a few students, but it had to be done, again.

There were several positive outcomes from the meeting. The owners agreed to upgrade their

video camera system so they'll be taking 24/7 video. Previously they were only motion-sensor cameras, so we had a tough time identifying which balconies the objects were being thrown from.

To that point, though. We did have video from a cell phone to work with. The owners have agreed to shut off balconies above, below, and to the sides of what appears to be the offending unit. TPD will interview the students living in that area to see if they can elicit concrete information on who was to blame for these recent incidents. If we're able to identify them, they'll be evicted.

Evictions did take place for violations of the balcony lease provisions – but those students were throwing things off from the north side of the tower into the parking lot of a private business. It was quite by chance that they were identified – they're gone.

Owners also agreed to implement a foot patrol unit for both the inside and exterior of the building. The management will be putting in place some written guidelines specifically outlining the policies they'll follow and which sanctions they'll impose if more incidents occur. Each student living in the unit will be served that form.

I believe that perhaps the most significant outcome of the meeting was my being able to elicit a commitment from the owners to initiate a conversation with their investor group about simply shutting off access to balconies starting with the new set of tenants this fall. We don't need to wait until a tragedy occurs to take that step. They will discuss it and report back to the group when a decision has been made. They conceded that they don't allow balconies at their other housing units in other jurisdictions for exactly this reason.

There have been four incidents of bottle throwing in the past two weeks. The members of the ICT know to contact TPD, and now they have contact information for the on-site management and the security division. The mosque group will be communicating to its membership that every single incident needs to be reported. As was true last year when we went through this, I'm hopeful that this little flare-up has gotten sufficient attention and appropriately severe responses to get the word out that "zero tolerance" means just that. If you want to act out, you won't be doing it from the 10th floor of this housing unit, placing other people's lives at risk.

And on a related TPD note...our new Police Chief, Chris Magnus is now two weeks on the job. He sent out a memo last week to all of his employees that outline his expectations. I've included it below. There's not a part of it that I disagree with.



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 27, 2016

TO: All Police Personnel

FROM: Chris Magnus
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Chief's Expectations

Whenever there is a change of leadership at the top of an organization, it's appropriate—and usually helpful—to share the “new boss's” expectations and priorities as soon as possible. It's only “Week #2” for me, but I've already been impressed with the skills, knowledge, and dedication of the TPD personnel I've gotten to know so far. As we get better acquainted, we'll talk further about expectations, opportunities, and issues I hope to engage you on, but this is a start. Much of this is likely not new to you, but I wanted to give you a sense of my priorities for how we work together as a team going forward:

- **Integrity and ethical behavior is the cornerstone of all we do**

I expect you to “do the right thing”, even when it may not be the easiest, most expedient, or popular course of action. This applies to the small things as well as the big issues. It's often said that the true measure of a person's character is what they do when no one's looking. For members of the policing profession, this involves using only the amount of force that is necessary and appropriate, engaging in Constitutional enforcement actions, completing reports in a thorough and timely manner, driving responsibly, not engaging in short cuts that compromise customer service, and avoiding bias in interactions with members of the public.

- **Treat others with civility, courtesy, and respect**

This applies inside the department, as well as out in the community. If you are a patrol officer, patrol the division you are assigned to as if it was the neighborhood where you live. Within the department, be forthright and considerate in how you communicate with others, instead of getting caught up in gossip or engaging in “passive-aggressive” interactions. If someone says something that offends or bothers you, tell them how you feel and give them a chance to make things right, rather than holding on to your resentment or anger. Carry your share of the workload. No one wants to do their own work and pick up the slack for others. Be compassionate and thoughtful in all you do.

- **Be truthful and honest**

This applies to the big and small things. We all make mistakes and misjudgments, but owning up to them in a forthright way is critical. In our department, dishonesty will be a “career-ender”. Please don't put me or others in the position of having to terminate you, or someone else's, employment based on untruthfulness. Remember, omitting pertinent facts during an investigation, or failing to appropriately address the misconduct of others you become aware of, are very serious ethical and procedural violations.

- **Deliver high quality service**

No matter what your job/position, assignment, rank, or seniority, I expect you to represent our great department by providing great service. Great service means “going the extra mile”

by being approachable, making good referrals, taking the time to explain things, checking back with victims you've interacted with through a quick phone call or visit to see how they're doing (when possible), and leaving your card/contact information with complainants. A little empathy, kindness, and friendliness can go a long way.

- **Take pride in ownership**

Whether you're working a patrol division, investigations assignment, dispatch job, or performing one of the many other important roles within the Department, bring good ideas forward and continually work to make things better. Strategize with others on how to best reduce crime or solve a neighborhood problem. Maintain your equipment and vehicle. Stay on top of crime data and crime analysis information that impacts you. Keep learning and developing your skills. Work to be the best you can be.

- **Participate fully in training**

Being part of our proud profession means we are always open to learning new things, as well

as improving our existing skills—especially when it comes to safety. Give all training your maximum effort and attention. Look for opportunities to help train and inform others—even if it's on an informal basis. Keep reading and learning. Stay engaged in, and set benchmarks for, your own professional development. Please provide any new ideas or concepts you have for training to me, your chain of command, or the SALETC staff.

- **Be open to change**

When organizations or individuals cease to change, they actually move backwards. Our field is constantly evolving, just as our communities are continually changing. We need to be open and receptive to the change process, not fearful of it. Before rejecting a new idea or approach to doing something—give it a chance and try to make it successful. Be bold and confident in your decision-making! Don't be afraid to take risks, or even to fail, when tackling something new. This is how we learn and improve.

- **Support and respect the professional standards process**

The community must have confidence that our agency does a thorough and credible job of policing ourselves through the department's complaint/investigation process. The less confidence the community has, the more oversight we'll end up getting from outside the department. My goal is to ensure that our disciplinary process is fair, thorough, consistent, and measured. That said, once someone receives discipline, we need to move forward in a positive and constructive manner, rather than "writing them off" based on their misstep.

- **Be accountable for what you do**

Accountability means accepting the consequences for our actions. We all need to accept responsibility for our choices, decisions, and job performance. Accountability is a true measure of character and maturity.

- **Everyone is a recruiter and an ambassador for the Department**

This is our agency and as a unified team, we all have the responsibility for bringing the best people into the department—and then helping them to succeed. Our residents, including our potential job applicants, base their opinions of the entire agency on the individual behaviors of the officers and professional staff they observe. Be mindful of your impact on others; be a good ambassador for our organization.

Thank you for reviewing each of these points, thinking about them, and striving to do the best job you can as an employee of the Tucson Police Department. The community, City leadership, and I appreciate your dedication and service.

Boards, Commissions and Committees

The City has over 60 BCCs. In many cases, each council office has the opportunity to name an appointee. The committees range from looking at business interests, to pedestrian/bike issues, water policy, the Planning Commission, golf, parking, and pretty much every policy area we deal with. Managing them is expensive in terms of time, money, and personnel. A while back, we asked the City Manager to take a look at how we might re-configure the BCCs into a more efficient and effective model.

Last week, we hosted what has turned into a semi-annual gathering of the Ward 6 appointees. We usually do that as a way of allowing each of them to share with the group what their commission is involved with. This time we shifted things around a little and had two primary agenda topics. One was an update on our budget from the City Manager, and the other was hearing from the BCC group on their ideas related to the restructure.

Mike Ortega has asked James MacAdam and Elaine “Weaver” Becherer from his office to head up the BCC review, and both of them were present at our meeting last week. The input they heard was largely along the lines of ensuring that whatever the outcome of their work, we end up with BCCs that are relevant to our policy making process and not just relief valves for the public. I agree. If we’re asking you to volunteer your time in the study of a given policy area, that input needs to be a factor in all we consider when finalizing policy decisions.

The BCC study group will be visiting each individual Board, Commission, and Committee as it puts together its reports on the restructure. Those reports will eventually contain information on which BCCs are required to exist by statute and suggestions on how we should evaluate their individual effectiveness. We will likely also see suggestions as to how we can merge and/or eliminate some of what now exists. It’ll take the study group time to make it around to each BCC, so this process is going to take a while to complete. It’s a worthwhile exercise though. Our community contains a wealth of assets and we want to put your talents to use in ways that matter.

Broadway Design

Last week, I also hosted what will be the last design meeting on Broadway that I’ll be pulling together ahead of the release of our 30% design documents. Knowing the sensitivity surrounding this project, I wanted to get staff and constituents together for meaningful exchanges. At these meetings, I can say each side heard the other. We’ll have to wait to see what effect that will have on the design we’ll see in March.

Present at last week’s meeting were residents from the Rincon Heights neighborhood as well as the owner of Axis Market, Perimeter Cycling, and other property owners who represented businesses from both the north and south sides of Broadway. The importance of the gathering was to allow each side to hear the concerns of the other and sit at a table looking for solutions together. What’s clear from these meetings is that we’re not going to be able to come up with a design that suits everybody’s interests. But I’m convinced that staff is doing their best to incorporate as much of the input as they can.

The Citizen Task Force (CTF) wasn’t represented at last week’s meetings. It’s their recommendation M&C adopted as a baseline alignment. The CTF also deserves to have a voice in reacting to what staff comes up with at 30%. Here’s the timeline you can expect:

On March 14th, a PDF of the 30% alignment will be posted on the Broadway Project website. A hard copy will also be given to my office and the Ward 5 office. What you’ll see will reflect the input from a variety of City departments, including fire, traffic, stormwater management, I.T., landscape, transit, bikes/ped, and real estate. That distribution is normal for projects such as this. The civil engineering and transportation staff who are working on the final documents are incorporating the comments they receive from those departments into the design process.

On March 29th there will be an open house at which the 30% docs will be shown and discussed. The open house will be held at the Sabbar Shrine Temple (450 S Tucson Blvd). The time is still being determined. If you want to follow how this process is developing, you can at the new Broadway project site:

www.broadwayboulevard.info. There's also a comment form page on which you can offer your input once they've posted the alignment doc.



I teased this item about a month ago, but now it has more teeth so I'll bring it back. Through the hard work of our Downtown Merchant's Council and in collaboration with Donvan Durband (ParkTucson) and TDOT, we're on the cusp of kicking off the Change Tucson program. This is similar to what's already being done in cities such as L.A., San Diego, Laguna Beach and Denver.

The program will include the installation of "parking meters" in and around the downtown core. Exact locations, whether they'll be inside stores or out on the right-of-way, are still being worked out. Those meters will be sponsored by merchants and/or individuals. Once the website is up, there will be an additional component available to those wanting to set-up a reoccurring monthly donation. The money collected will be administered by the Community Foundation for use by non-profits with 501(c)(3) status serving our homeless population.



As with other such programs, the meters may contain space for sponsor logos, as well as promotional information on how funds gathered in the program will work. The sponsors of course gain through the name recognition and exposure from the signage, and our work in support of the homeless will get a bump.

The program won't "solve" homelessness, as is often the expectation most verbalized to me by people wanting to know what "the City is doing," but it'll be yet another small piece of touching the issue. It exemplifies that the merchants are partners in our approach to helping the less fortunate among us.

All of us at the Ward 6 office are grateful to the Downtown Merchants Council and John Jacobs for their willingness to step up and make a positive change.

Moving the Ward 6 Office

Each week, in response to these items in the newsletter, I receive input from our constituents related to the idea of moving the Ward Office downtown. For the first time last week, we had a couple of



people sort of shrug their shoulders and say it wouldn't be such a bad idea. More in the neutral category than otherwise. But the vast majority support my feeling that it'd be a step in the wrong direction. Here's the text of a letter sent out to all of M&C last week by our Miramonte Neighborhood Association:

Dear Mayor Rothschild and Members of the City Council:

At the January 13, 2016 meeting of the Miramonte Neighborhood Association board of directors, the board unanimously approved a motion directing me to let the Mayor and Council know in the strongest possible terms that we oppose relocating the Ward 6 office.

- The Ward 6 office is conveniently located for all citizens of Ward 6 to visit and do City and Ward business*
- It is located in our own Miramonte neighborhood and we are proud to have it there*
- Parking is free and easy*
- The meeting rooms are available for any appropriate use 24/7 and are very heavily used by many Ward 6 groups*
- There is NO other public meeting space in our neighborhood*
- Attending meetings downtown has become more difficult due to the success of downtown itself*

Our council member is accessible both at the office and jogging through the neighborhood to and from the office

For all of these reasons as well as the reasons so well-articulated from other groups such as TRGG, we strongly oppose the relocation of the Ward 6 office. It seems logical that the same or similar reasons would apply in the other City Wards.

Sincerely,

Sam Behrend

President, Miramonte Neighborhood Association

I appreciate your interest in this topic, and I'm not at all surprised at the input we're seeing.

Mark your Calendars

Beginning on Saturday, February 13th (weather permitting), we're going to start road repaving work on Alvernon from Ft. Lowell to Speedway. That two-mile segment has long been in need of this TLC. The work will take place from about 6am until 6pm. It's a part of the Prop 409 work you authorized a couple of years ago.

There will be lane restrictions, so plan on slow travel while the work is going on. There may also be some access restrictions during the times the heavy equipment is working directly in front of people's property. It's an unavoidable inconvenience, but one that'll be short-lived and provide long-term relief from the bumps in the road you've been experiencing.

...and this

Saturday, February 27th I'll join former Mayor Bob Walkup, current Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, and others who will dazzle you with "artistic" abilities. The Plaza Palomino hosts

what's called the Quick Draw event each year. The Plaza is located at Swan and Ft. Lowell. It's a fund raiser to help the Tucson Musicians Museum. From about noon until 1pm, we'll be "competing" in the drawing contest. In it, somebody calls out a rodeo-related category and we have 60 seconds to draw something depicting the topic. The results are quite Picasso-esque.

The day-long activities run from 10am until 5pm. This ritual humiliation lasts about one of those hours. There's live music throughout the day, along with a wide variety of food and beverage options. This year our Quick Draw will be emceed by "Porkchop" from the KIIM morning show. The people in the audience are the judges.

This year, there will also be a mechanical bull riding contest. Sponsors can pledge money for each second you stay on the "bull." I'll be soliciting letters from noted orthopedic surgeons thankfully preventing me from taking part.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events and Entertainment

Free Health Fair

Saturday, February 6, 2016 | 10 am – 1 pm

El Rio Neighborhood Center, 1390 W Speedway Blvd

Sponsored by the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy and Tucson Parks and Recreation, this health fair will offer screenings for osteoporosis, diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, hearing, breathing, vision, and medication reviews. There also will be activities for children, including a jumping castle, face painting and TMC will be giving away booster seats. Moreover, there will be raffle prizes and a yoga class for adults. This event is free and open to the public. Spanish translators will be available. www.facebook.com/elriohealthfair

Our Legacy and Our Future: A Community Forum for LGBT Elders and Allies

Sunday, February 7, 2016 | 1 pm – 5 pm

Jewish Community Center, 3800 E River Rd

Join Southern Arizona Senior Pride and the Pima Council on Aging for this forum featuring a free screening of the documentary film *Reel in the Closet*, a collection of home movies tracing decades of Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual and Transgender lives. Filmmaker Stu Maddux will speak at the screening and respond to questions. More information at soazseniorpride.org.

Flood Preparation during El Nino

The National Weather Service in Tucson is predicting a very wet El Nino winter this year, meaning it is far more likely that Tucson will experience an increased number of wet winter storms that could cause localized flooding. The Tucson Office of Emergency Management and Pima County Office of Emergency Management recommend you begin to take precautions now to protect your home and property from rain and potential flooding. Websites such as [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) and [Floodsmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) offer information about how to prepare. Follow the Tucson and Pima County OEMs on social media for real time updates and information throughout the season: facebook.com/toemhs and facebook.com/pcoem; on Twitter [@toemhs](https://twitter.com/toemhs) and [@pcoemhs](https://twitter.com/pcoemhs).

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave | www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church St | tucsonconventioncenter.com

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress St | www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Mission Garden, 929 W Mission Ln | www.tucsonsbirthplace.org

A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San Agustin Mission. For guided tours call 520-777-9270.

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S 6th Ave | www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way | www.tucsonbotanical.org

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave | www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd | www.uamineralmuseum.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave | www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St | www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St | hotelcongress.com

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd | www.loftcinema.com

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St | www.rialtotheatre.com

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd | www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave | www.arizonatheatre.org

The Rogue Theatre, The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd | www.theroguetheatre.org